



43rd Anniversary

1935-1978

12 April 1978

NAVAL REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

NAVAL REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Captain Richard A. Baker, MC, USN *Commanding Officer*

Captain James W. Hayes, MC, USN *Director of Clinical Services*

Captain Henry S. Rudolph, MSC, USN *Director of Administrative Services*

U.S. Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania was commissioned on 12 April 1935. Under the regionalization concept, Naval Hospital, Philadelphia was designated Naval Regional Medical Center, Philadelphia on 1 January 1973.

HISTORY

The history of naval hospitals and health facilities in the Philadelphia area can be traced back to the days of the Revolution, when the "Pesthouse" on Province Island in the Delaware River was used to treat patients of the Pennsylvania State Navy. Later, bluejackets and marines were treated by special arrangement at the Philadelphia Hospital, a civilian facility. This arrangement, however, had its disadvantages — officers often lost control over patients who were out of sight if not out of jurisdiction, and they often disappeared.

Until 1813, a small hospital at the Southward Navy Yard was used to temporarily treat patients. Surgeon Thomas Harris saw the need for a more permanent naval hospital, however, and was successful in getting one built. The first building was erected in 1832, and the patients included such illustrious personages as Admiral Farragut and Admiral Hull, the skipper of "Old Ironsides."

In 1868 the U.S. Naval Hospital on Gray's Ferry Road was erected, and casualties from the Spanish-American War and World War I were treated there.

American entry into World War I brought a need for additional medical facilities in the Philadelphia area. In October 1917 the League Island Naval Hospital, a temporary wooden structure at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, was opened, and remained in service until the present-day facility was erected in 1935.

Over the ensuing years this hospital expanded, contracted and expanded again but remained organized along traditional lines until 1 January 1973, when it was reorganized under a new concept in health care facilities designed to provide maximum patient care at the greatest economic savings. Fifteen dispensaries in a five state area were also placed under the direct control and supervision of the central complex, and Naval Hospital, Philadelphia became Naval Regional Medical Center, Philadelphia.

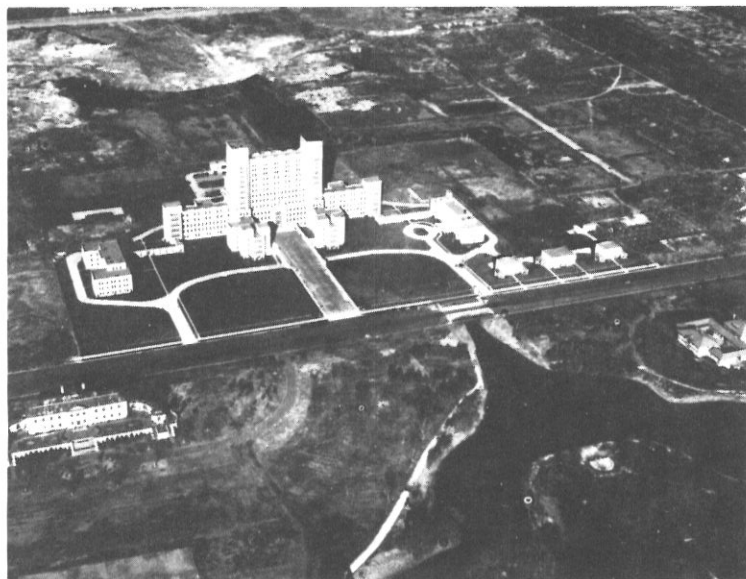
The present facility is a 400 bed, multi-specialty medical center with a staff of approximately 950 military and civilian personnel. The center sits on 49 acres of land and consists of 70 buildings and structures.

In the time-honored tradition of the Navy Medical Department, NRMCMC Philadelphia continues to provide treatment and care that is second to none.

ROSTER OF COMMANDING OFFICERS



Captain John D. Manchester, MC, USN	1935-1936
Captain John E. Sellers, MC, USN	1936-1939
Captain Henry L. Dollard, MC, USN	1939-1942
Rear Admiral Richard H. Laning, MC, USN	1942-1943
Captain Jesse W. Allen, MC, USN	1943-1945
Captain Melville J. Aston, MC, USN	1945-1946
Captain Howard H. Montgomery, MC, USN	1946-1949
Rear Admiral Clyde W. Brunson, MC, USN	1949-1951
Captain Gerald W. Smith, MC, USN	1951-1953
Rear Admiral Courtney G. Clegg, MC, USN	1953-1955
Captain Charles L. Ferguson, MC, USN	1955-1959
Captain Edward T. Knowles, MC, USN	1959-1960
Captain Benjamin G. Feen, MC, USN	1960-1961
Captain Joseph A. Syslo, MC, USN	1961-1964
Rear Admiral John S. Cowan, MC, USN	1964-1966
Captain Clyde S. Stroud, Jr., MC, USN	1966-1968
Rear Admiral H. P. Mahin, MC, USN	1968-1969
Captain Loy T. Brown, MC, USN	1969-1972
Captain George E. Cruft, MC, USN	1972-1974
Captain Scott G. Kramer, MC, USN	1974-1975
Rear Admiral Robert L. Baker, MC, USN	1975-1977
Captain Richard A. Baker, MC, USN	1977-Present



1935



1978